

**Contact:** Jack Zeilenga, Assistant State Curator 2 Governor Aiken Ave., Montpelier, VT 05602 802-828-5657, Email: <u>jack.zeilenga@vermont.gov</u>

Location: Pavilion Office Building

109 State Street, 5th Floor, Montpelier, VT 05602 **NOTE: A photo ID is** *required* **for admission** 

September 13, 2016

Exhibition from: October 5 – December 30, 2016 Opening Reception: Thursday, October 6, 4:00 – 7:00

Art Walk: Friday, December 2, 4:00 – 7:00 pm Artist Website: http://MaryAdmasianART.com

## **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## The Vermont Governor's Gallery presents SHADOWLANDS Paintings, Assemblages and Sculptures by Mary Admasian

MONTPELIER, VT: Mary Admasian is the fourth artist whose work is featured in the Vermont Governor's Gallery 2016 calendar. Her exhibit titled SHADOWLANDS is a new collection of paintings as well as small sculptures and assemblages. Admasian's mixed-media paintings are created on birch panels. Her application technique of spraypaint, acrylic paint, graphite, cold wax, colored pencil, and watercolor pencil materials creates a surface that layers the visual space and imagery of each painting.

The artist created her assemblages and small sculptures with found objects and materials from the natural Vermont environment. Her use of rusted metals, thread, and barbed wire has skillfully created a relationship between materials and narrative that reflects viewers' spiritual and philosophical landscapes—that pivotal energy between darkness and light, acceptance and denial—that throws into relief the personal boundaries that inhibit us. Admasian says that, "Barbed wire is, for me, an iconic material; I feature it predominantly in much of my artwork because it is a powerful metaphor evoking life

experiences."

"We are thrilled that Mary's unique and provocative works will enliven the Governor's Gallery during the final quarter of his tenure," states Vermont State Curator David Schutz. "These pieces are perfectly suited to the space, and are so compelling."

Admasian is a multidisciplinary artist who is passionate about exploring how raw forms can symbolize human challenges. As she states, "By transforming common and found materials into conceptually stimulating images, I want my work to create a narrative that provokes emotional insight as well as spiritual and social reflection in the viewer."

She is the recipient of a 2016/17 Vermont Arts Endowment Fund of the Vermont Community Foundation Grant for her sculpture, "Weighted Tears," which will be on exhibit in June 2017 at the Brattleboro Museum. Her work is in the collections of colleges, institutions, and prominent art collectors. She has received two fellowships to the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, VT, and has also created site-specific work and installations in collaboration with other artists, filmmakers, musicians, and writers.

A native of Detroit, MI, Admasian has lived in Vermont most of her adult life. She earned a BFA from Colby-Sawyer College with honors in painting and has worked as an artist, curator, marketing consultant, and creative director for the visual and performing arts. Other artistic disciplines include drawing, printmaking, and mixed-media.

If you need additional images or would like to set up an interview, please contact the artist directly: Mary Admasian, 802-223-5811; Email: <u>lightson mary@comcast.net</u>
Instagram: @maryadmasian

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